## Office of the Administrator



Takiyah A. Douse Interim Administrator

## **NEWS RELEASE**

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## Winners announced for the 2022 New Year, New Yard, New Neighborhoods Campaign

**AUGUSTA, GA (August 30, 2022)** – The 2022 "New Year, New Yard, New Neighborhoods" (NY NY NN) campaign sponsored by Augusta Richmond County Housing and Community Development and the Richmond County Marshals Office has concluded, and the winners have been selected.

The nearly five-month campaign sought to strengthen neighborhood revitalization and improvement through community engagement. The New Year, New Yard, New Neighborhood campaign pre-identified areas in the city that needed revitalization and clean-up support and hosted a series of clean-up efforts and block parties to engage each neighborhood and community volunteers.

The areas identified were Laney Walker-Bethlehem, Sherwood, and Meadowbrook.

Before and after photos were used to determine the winners. In addition, participants were judged on the quality and significance of improvement, volunteer engagements, and the scope of cleaning the area or neighborhood. Marshal Ramone Lamkin and Housing and Community Director Hawthorn Welcher were excited about the results of their partnership for the campaign.

"Congratulations to the winners of the New Year, New Yard, New Neighborhood Campaign. We thank them for dedicating time and resources in an effort to help keep Augusta Richmond County a clean and safe place to live, work, and play. We made significant progress through our partnerships with Housing and Community Development, Augusta 311, iHeartMedia, Augusta Engineering, First Presbyterian Church, Sherman & Hemstreet, and Lanier's Meat Shop in an effort to promote community engagement" said Marshal Ramone Lamkin.

Augusta Housing and Community Development Director expressed a similar sentiment. "Homeownership is the #1 wealth building tool in America, but also a display of upkeep, discipline, and self-pride! It is because of the NY NY NN campaign that we take time to celebrate the persons that matter most.... our Augusta homeowners!!!!!" said Welcher

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The following groups and categories reflect the winners for the 2022 New Year, New Yard, New Neighborhood Campaign:

- Best Yard- Percival Galloway- Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity- Alpha Chi Lambda Chapter
- Best Neighborhood-Russell Joel Brow- Boys (+1 Girl) With a Future
- Best Block- Lisa Branch & Barbra Franklin with Sisters Only Club for the Augusta Partnership for Children Christmas Project
- Community Engagement- Pastor Grimes of Lord and Savors Ministries
- Best of Show (Overall best)- Russell Joel Brown from- Boys (+1 Girl) With a Future

Each winning group receives a \$500 gift toward their non-profit, radio promotion for their organization of choice, and Lowes gift cards. Winners were recognized at the Candlelight Music Series on August 28th during intermission.

Media interested in covering this topic should contact Public Information Manager Danielle Harris at 706-564-3460.

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